

Monday, October 15, 2007



# THE DAILY BEAT

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This publication is provided by the [Governor's Office of Indian Affairs](#) and the [State-Tribal Economic Development Commission](#). The Daily Beat provides daily updates, announcements and articles relevant to Indian Country in Montana. Current and archived issues can be found on the [State-Tribal Economic Development Commission](#) website. Questions? Email Billie Rusek @ [brusek@mt.gov](mailto:brusek@mt.gov) or Heather Sobrepeña-George at [hsobrepena@mt.gov](mailto:hsobrepena@mt.gov)

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## **MONTANA TRIBAL NEWS:** **CHAMBER PLANS HOUSING CONFERENCE**

By Gazette News Services (10/15/07)

KALISPELL - The Kalispell Chamber of Commerce has planned a summit to discuss the rising cost of houses in the Flathead Valley that leaves many working people out of the market.

The chamber said the affordability gap poses a challenge for employers trying to recruit workers in a tight labor market.

Between 2000 and 2005, the median price of a Flathead Valley home rose 85 percent, to \$245,000. In the hottest places, near ski slopes or lakes, prices increased as much as 50 percent from 2005 to 2006.

At a meeting Tuesday, the Chamber of Commerce wants employers, property developers and civic leaders to share thoughts about the housing dilemma.

## **CONGRESS TAKES UP TROUBLED TRIBAL RECOGNITION PROCESS**

By JERRY REYNOLDS / Indian Country Today® (10/12/07)

WASHINGTON - The federal process for acknowledging tribes has come under heavy criticism in both chambers of Congress within recent weeks, with assorted tribes urging legislative recognition for themselves and others

trapped in a labyrinth of red tape and delay at the Interior Department.

Meanwhile, at a Sept. 19 hearing of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Carlyle Consulting began to distribute a combined list of recognition reform bills that have been introduced in Congress - 32 of them over the course of 20 years.

"Slow justice is slow death," said Tom Rodgers of Carlyle, adding that tribes deserve a decision before more years and decades go by and more elders die. He urged passage of a Senate bill to recognize the Muscogee of Florida.

## **EVO MORALES ADVOCATES FOR NEW ECONOMIC MODELS DURING U.N. ADDRESS**

by: RICK KEARNS / Indian Country Today® (10/12/07)

NEW YORK - In the last week of September, Bolivian President Evo Morales came to New York to speak to the U.N. General Assembly and a variety of audiences about global warming, the devastating effects of unchecked capitalism, the re-founding of his country in the face of internal and external pressures, and other issues.

"The market converts life into commodities; it converts land into a commodity," he told the assembly. "And when the capitalists cannot sustain this economic model

based on looting, on exploitation, on marginalization, on exclusion and above all, on the accumulation of capital, they rely on war, the arms race ... For the indigenous movement, land cannot be a commodity; it is a mother that gives us life, so how could we convert it into a commodity as the Western model does?

"This is why I feel it is important," he continued, "to change economic models, development models, and economic systems, particularly those in the Western world. And if we do not understand and thoroughly discuss the very survival of our peoples, then we certainly will not be addressing the problem of climate change, the problem of life, the problem for humanity."

### **LITTLE SHELL TRIBE HAS SOUGHT FEDERAL RECOGNITION FOR OVER A CENTURY**

By MARGA LINCOLN, Independent Record (10/14/07)

For local tribal elder Henry Anderson, federal recognition of the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe of Montana would mean more educational opportunities for youth and better health care for elders in his tribe.

The Little Shell have sought federal recognition for more than 100 years.

This week a Bureau of Indian Affairs investigator is in the state interviewing tribal members as part of the recognition process.

In 1978 and 1985 the tribe petitioned for recognition through the BIA Office of Federal Acknowledgement, said historian Nicholas Vrooman, who is also interim director of the Helena Indian Alliance.

They then re-applied in 1996, and in 2000 received provisional recognition, Vrooman said.

"It's now 2007 and nothing's been resolved," he said.

So the tribe took a different route and turned to Montana's delegation to seek congressional recognition.

Earlier this year Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., introduced a bill to grant the Little Shell federal recognition, Vrooman said.

Also, Montana officially re-recognized the Little Shell Tribe this year. The state had already recognized the tribe in the 1930s, Vrooman said.

## **JOB VACANCIES:**

**SOCIOLOGY – ASSISTANT PROFESSOR-** The University of Montana invites applications for a 9-month, tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level to begin Fall 2008. We seek an applicant with a strong sociological background and teaching specialties in inequality and classical theory, who can contribute to the Inequality and Social Justice option. The candidate must possess a Ph.D. in sociology at the time of appointment; a record of graduate study and scholarship in some aspect of social inequality; and promise of teaching excellence. A complete application includes a statement of teaching and research specialties, curriculum vitae, academic transcripts, copies of recent publications or professional papers, and three letters of recommendation that address the candidate's academic and professional qualifications. All application materials should be sent to: Celia Winkler, ISJ Search Committee Chair, Department of Sociology, Social Science Room 333, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812-5184. Please include an email address. Application materials must be postmarked on or before December 1, 2007. No faxed or email applications will be accepted.

The University of Montana is an EOE/AA/ADA/Veterans Preference employer

## **GRANTS/OPPORTUNITIES:**

**(HOUSING) House Bill Would Create Trust Fund**  
(October 11, 2007)

The House passes a measure (HR 2895) that would create a Nat'l Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF) to aid low-income households.

The proposed NAHTF Act of 2007, which passes by a healthy 264-148, initially would provide between \$800 million and \$1 billion annually directly to states and local communities. At least 75% of the new resources would be required to produce or preserve housing affordable to extremely-low-income people or those making less than 30% of area median income.

The Nat'l Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) applauds the approval. This would be the first new housing production program since 1990 and the only one focused on housing for households with the lowest incomes, an NLIHC representative says.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) offers praise, too. "The NAHTF will help end the affordable housing crisis in America by producing or preserving 1.5 million units of low- and very low-income housing over the next 10 years," she says. "The bill will assist cities and states address the most urgent affordable housing needs in their

communities while keeping our promise of fiscal responsibility to taxpayers with no new deficit spending."

**Editor's note:** The measure likely won't move farther this year, but should be at the top of the agenda during the second session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress. The Senate seems to want to offer its own plan, with the chamber remaining quiet on House passage, including Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT), ranking member of the Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee.

## *DATES and PLACES*

## MISSOULA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

**Holiday Inn Missoula – Downtown  
at the Park**  
200 South Pattee St. (406) 721-8550

## BILLINGS

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2007**

**Holiday Inn Grand Montana**  
5500 Midland Road (406) 248-7701

*HELENA*

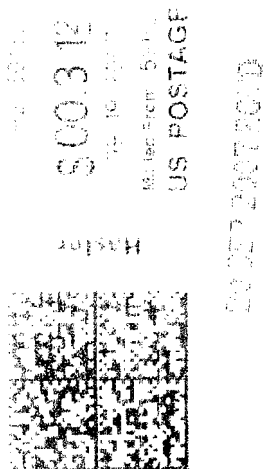
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2007

**Red Lion Colonial Hotel**  
2301 Colonial Drive (406) 443-2100

**CIRCLE (CDBG & TSEP only)**

**The Department of Commerce will provide an additional workshop on applying to the CDBG and TSEP programs in Circle. The workshop will be at Schmidt's Banquet Room, located at Schmidt's Grocery, 101 10th Street, on Tuesday, October 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

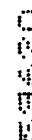
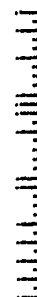
**There is no fee for the workshop and pre-registration is not required. Call (406) 841-2770 if you have questions.**



THESE  
FIRST CLASS

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**Montana Department of Commerce  
301 S Park Ave  
PO Box 200523  
Helena, MT 59620-0523**



**Montana's Department of Commerce, Department of Environmental Quality, and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, along with the U.S. Department of Agriculture are co-sponsoring an infrastructure planning and financing workshop:**

***“W<sub>2</sub>ASACT  
FUNDING  
WORKSHOP  
FALL 2007”***



**Is your community planning to construct a public infrastructure project within the next few years that will require a grant or a low interest loan to make the project affordable?**

If the answer is yes, you should plan to attend one of the one-day workshops that will inform potential applicants about the various public infrastructure-funding programs available and their specific requirements, in addition to other information that will help you be ready to submit applications next spring.

The following funding programs will be providing information at the workshops:

- ◆ Board of Investments – **INTERCAP**
- ◆ Department of Commerce – **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**
- ◆ Department of Commerce – **Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP)**
- ◆ Department of Commerce – **Coal Board**
- ◆ Department of Environmental Quality – **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Programs (Water and Wastewater)**
- ◆ Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – **Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) Program**
- ◆ U.S. Department of Agriculture – **Rural Development**

Representatives from each of the programs will discuss their specific application requirements and application deadlines. They will also be available to provide you with the opportunity to talk one-on-one about your specific projects and funding needs.

Information will also be provided at the workshop about preparing preliminary engineering reports and other technical issues. The various costs related to obtaining a loan and other financial issues will be discussed. At the end of the day we will talk about some of the things to avoid based on past experiences with other funded projects.

### **Remember that the next big round of funding competitions is next spring.**

Since the TSEP and RRGL programs require legislative approval, they only accept applications once every two years. Therefore, if you are planning to submit an application next year, you should attend this important workshop.

## **AGENDA**

**8:30 a.m.** Introductions, Overview and W<sub>2</sub>ASACT Video

**9:00 a.m.** Program Summaries and Funding Requirements:  
 ◆ **Rural Development (RD)**  
 Program -- Grants and Loans

◆ **Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP)** -- Grants

◆ **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** -- Grants

**10:10 a.m.** Break

**10:30 a.m.** Program Summaries... cont.

◆ **INTERCAP Program** -- Loans

◆ **Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) Program** -- Grants and Loans

◆ **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Programs** -- Loans

◆ **Coal Board** -- Grants

**11:45 a.m.** Lunch (on your own)

**1:15 p.m.** STAG and WRDA - Grants

**1:45 p.m.** ◆ **Preliminary Engineering Report and Technical Issues**  
 ◆ **Financial Issues**

**2:45 p.m.** Break

**3:00 p.m.** Top Ten Things to Avoid

**4:00 p.m.** Adjourn

*Reasonable modifications for persons with disabilities will be made who wish to participate in this workshop. Please advise us of the nature of the accommodation that you need at least one week prior to the workshop, by calling 841-2770.*